

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 IO-12

NIC-01 RSR-01 /106 W

----- 112440

R 191120 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4597

INFO USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 5762

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, WB, US, SU, FR, UK, GW, GE

SUBJECT: RUDOLPH HESS

1. FRG REP (BRAEUTIGAM) INFORMED ALLIES OF CURRENT STATUS OF EFFORTS TO OBTAIN HUMANITARIAN RELEASE OF RUDOLPH HESS FROM SPANDAU PRISON AT APRIL 18 BONN GROUP MEETING. BRAEUTIGAM SAID FRG STATE SECRETARY FRANK HAD BROACHED THE SUBJECT WITH SOVIET AMBASSADOR FALIN IN FEBRUARY, AND HAD RECENTLY RECEIVED A REPLY.

2. FALIN SAID HIS AUTHORITIES FELT THERE REMAINED NO VALID GROUNDS FOR HESS' S RELEASE. HE HAD NOT CHANGED HIS NAZI CONVICTIONS, NOR SHOWN ANY REPENTANCE FOR PREVIOUS DEEDS. FURTHERMORE, THE SOVIETS FELT, TO RELEASE HESS WOULD CREATE UNFAVORABLE IMPRESSION IN THE WORLD AT LARGE AND ALSO IN THOSE FRG CIRCLES SENSITIVE TO THE REVIVAL OF NAZISM IN GERMANY.

3. IN RESPONSE TO NUMEROUS LETTERS AND PARLIAMENTARY REQUESTS SO FAR, THE FRG HAS ONLY MENTIONED THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE RAISED OBJECTIONS TO HESS' S RELEASE AND THAT THE FRG IS IN CONTACT WITH THEM ON THE SUBJECT.

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BRAEUTIGAM SAID HE DID NOT KNOW IF FRG WILL RAISE
SUBJECT WITH SOVIETS AGAIN; HE COULD NOT EXCLUDE THE
POSSIBILITY THAT THE FRG MIGHT RAISE ISSUE DURING
BREZHNEV' S VISIT TO FRG. SINCE DOMESTIC POLITICAL
INTEREST IN OBTAINING HESS' S RELEASE SEEMED TO BE
INCREASING, THERE WAS A POSSIBILITY THAT PRESIDENT
HEINEMANN WOULD ALSO TAKE UP THE QUESTION AT SOME POINT.

4. BRAEUTIGAM SAID FONOFF WILL KEEP ALLIES INFORMED
OF ANY FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE HESS CASE.
HILLENBRAND

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Subject: RUDOLPH HESS
TAGS: PGOV, FR, GE, GW, SU, UK, US, WB
To: BERLIN
EUR
LONDON
MOSCOW
PARIS
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE

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